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Roxanne P. Day

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Renno Hjorth Rokkjaer

Serial No. 10/590,020

Art Unit: 1794

Filed: October 23, 2006

Examiner: Cheryl Ann Juska

For: METHOD AND PLANT FOR PRODUCING CARPET SQUARES AND CARPET
SQUARESUPPLEMENTAL INTERVIEW SUMMARY
AFTER FINAL REJECTION

To the Director of the Patent and Trademark Office

Sir:

In a brief interview with the examiner on March 24, 2010, Applicant's counsel pointed out the relative thickness has always been in the application.

The examiner suggested filing a Supplemental Interview Summary with the points we discussed.

Applicant's counsel offered to file a two months extension, but the examiner indicated one month should suffice.

"Thickness" should not be a new matter because:

- The original disclosure describes relative thickness of the polymer 6 and the felt 7.
- Page 7, lines 25-29 point out "A thin surface layer 6 [of cured polymer]...a thick layer 7 containing felt which is not treated with the polymer."
- Page 8, lines 17-18 and page 10, line 1 point out the latex is spread on the bottom surface of the felt in 120g/m².
120g is about .254 lbs.
1 m² is about 1550 in².
That is about 1 lb. on 6,200 square inches, which is .00016 lbs/in² – a very thin coating.
- Page 2, lines 1, 2 indicate a "thickness" up to 8mm (.3 inch)
- Page 6, line 5 points out the coating may penetrate 1-3mm or ¼ of its thickness into felt. However, that should not be interpreted incorrectly as ¼ way into the felt.
- Figure 1 compares "A thin surface layer 6" of cured polymer to "a thick layer 7" of felt, page 7, lines 25-27.

The original claims had low polymer thickness. For example:

- Claim 7 "preferably less than 100g dry matter/m²".
- Claim 9 "felt backside has a surface coating of a cured polymer".
- Claim 11 "preferably less than 100g dry matter/m²".

The July 9 (proposed) and July 23, 2009 amended claims preserved the low thickness.

- Claim 12 "curable polymer having a width [thickness] less than a width [thickness] of the felt layer".
- Claim 26 "less than 100g dry matter/m²".

- Claim 27 "curable polymer having a width [thickness] less than a width [thickness] of the felt layer".
- Claim 30 "cured polymer having a width [thickness] less than a width [thickness] of the felt layer".
- Claim 34 "less than 100g dry matter/m²".
- Claim 35 "curable polymer having a width [thickness] less than a width [thickness] of the felt layer".

Higgins, "cushioned carpet", which had previously been cited, had a thick polyurethane layer 178, 278 and a thin reinforcement material 158 in Figures. After an interview, Higgins was not cited in the final office action dated November 25, 2009, and the examiner stated in paragraph 2, the amendment renders moot the §112, 2nd, 102 and 103 rejections.

The examiner made a new §112 rejection. The Applicant had described "thickness" incorrectly as "width". The examiner understood width to mean thickness and cited page 6, lines 3-6 at the bottom of page 2 of the office action cited page 6, lines 3-6 of the application. The examiner said width was the wrong term.

The Applicant tried to change width to thickness in the amendment after final filed January 15, 2010. However, the examiner refused that change as new matter and indeed is an important part of the invention as described and claimed.

In the interview on March 24, 2010, Applicant's counsel pointed out the whole of the application, particularly lines 25-29 on page 7 and Figure 1 showed the relative thickness of the thin polymers 6 and thick felt layer 7 was not new matter.

Reconsideration and acceptance of the relative thickness replacement for relative width in the claims is requested.

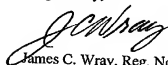
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CONCLUSION

Reconsideration and acceptance of the relative thickness replacement for relative width in the claims is requested.

Respectfully,



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